



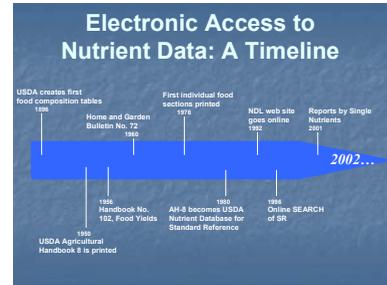
# National Nutrient Databank: Meeting Data Needs Online



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The National Nutrient Databank (NNDB) provides authoritative nutrient composition data for foods eaten in the United States. Historically, the Nutrient Data Laboratory (NDL) has made this data available in the form of handbooks. Today, the NDL Web site at [www.nal.usda.gov/fnic/foodcomp](http://www.nal.usda.gov/fnic/foodcomp) is our primary vehicle for dissemination of nutrient composition data. Reflecting this transition to online dissemination, the number of monthly visitors to our site has increased four-fold in the past four years. Through our site, NDL has provided downloadable datasets, single nutrient reports, previous USDA food composition releases, NDL publications, and the widely used online search tool to access the USDA Nutrient Database for Standard Reference (SR). The web search tool has made access to nutrient data easier by eliminating the need to download data files into a database program and allowing visitors without technical expertise to access SR. Development has begun on SR search applications for personal computers and personal digital assistants and will become available for download from the NDL Web site. Our aim is to make data retrieval easier for the 40,000 unique visitors to our site every month while also extending the usefulness of our Web site to additional audiences. Evaluations of users of our data have resulted in new layouts being designed, new datasets being compiled (e.g. flavonoids), and new software being developed. The new software applications will provide users with alternative formats of SR data and help address issues such as portability of the data and limited access to the data due to the need for Internet connectivity. With these current improvements and further planned revisions to the NDL site, nutrient data on foods in the US diet is becoming more accessible to increasing numbers of users.

## Online Data Dissemination

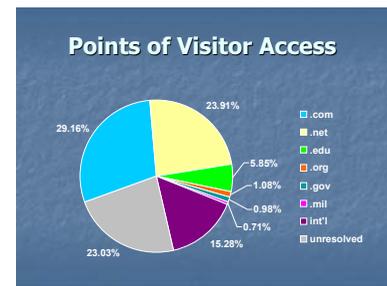


### New SR dissemination formats

Downloadable SR search applications being developed for the:

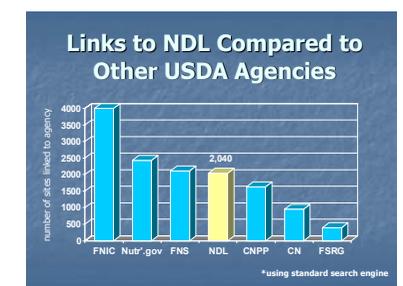
- PC
- PDA

## Identification of Audience

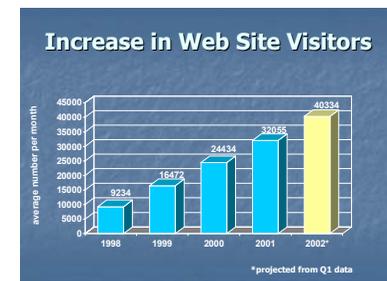


- ### Most Frequent International Visitors
1. Canada
  2. Australia
  3. Brazil
  4. United Kingdom
  5. Spain
  6. Italy
  7. Netherlands
  8. Argentina
  9. Japan
  10. New Zealand

- ### Examples of Sites That Link to NDL
- Government: National Institutes of Health
  - News/Media: CNN
  - Web Portals: Yahoo!
  - Medical: Mayo Clinic
  - Academic: Johns Hopkins University
  - Associations: Institute of Food Technologists
  - Industry: National Cattlemen's Beef Association



## Use of Web Site



- ### Most Accessed Pages
1. NDL Homepage
  2. Food Composition Products
  3. SR14 Main Page
  4. How to Get Information from NDL
  5. Reports by Single Nutrients
  6. Food Composition and Nutrition Links
  7. SR14 Downloadable Files
  8. HG72 Data
  9. SR14 pdf Reports
  10. Frequently Asked Questions

- ### Most Requested Single Nutrient Reports
1. Protein
  2. Fat
  3. Energy (Calories)
  4. Carbohydrate
  5. Moisture
  6. Iron
  7. Total Dietary Fiber
  8. Calcium
  9. Potassium
  10. Cholesterol

- ### Examples of Web Site Improvements
- Revised Homepage: Clearer site organization, easier to navigate
  - Enhanced SR Search function: Commonly used food names now included
  - Reports by Single Nutrients: Identifies foods with highest nutrient content
  - Additional Data Formats to be available: New downloadable software for PCs and PDAs